



**Delaware Health
and Social Services**

Office of the Secretary

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Consumers, Families and Stakeholders

FROM: Rita M. Landgraf, DHSS Secretary *RL*

DATE: October 24, 2012

As Cabinet Secretary for the Department of Health and Social Services, I welcome you to this listening tour coordinated by our Division of Developmental Disabilities Services. This ongoing dialogue will provide my DHSS leadership team with valuable input to enhance the state's system and the Delawareans we serve. We greatly value and appreciate feedback from our clients, their families, providers, advocates and other stakeholders.

I am not looking to diminish services or to close either group homes or sheltered workshops. My goal is to expand the options and choices that are available within the state's home and community-based waiver.

Some of the options that I have been interested in exploring are:

- Career planning and placement
- Self-employment or entrepreneurship
- Group employment
- Expansion of supported employment
- Financial coaching and empowerment

I view these as an expansion of choices that can provide a wide range of services through the waiver to meet the needs of the people we serve. These options will not replace the current services, but would expand the choices available within our waiver. I have also instructed my leadership to think about how could expand family support services.

The give-and-take that you will provide this evening will be part of an ongoing dialogue with my leadership team at DHSS. Above everything else, we want to ensure that your feedback is heard and that the individuals and families we serve have options and choices.